

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (canceled)

8 (new). In a circuit for operating one or more low pressure gas discharge lamps, the circuit including a first half-bridge switching circuit having a first output and a second half-bridge switching circuit having a second output, the first half-bridge switching circuit operating substantially 180° out of phase from the second half-bridge switching circuit; characterized by a lamp drive circuit for each lamp, each lamp drive circuit comprising:

  a first resonant circuit having an input coupled to the output of said first half-bridge switching circuit and a first output adapted to connect to a first end of a low pressure gas discharge lamp; and

  a second resonant circuit having an input coupled to the output of said second half-bridge switching circuit and a second output adapted to connect to a second end of said low pressure gas discharge lamp.

9 (new). A liquid crystal display on which a video signal of a computer or of a television set can be represented, comprising a circuit as claimed in claim 8.

10 (new). The circuit as set forth in claim 8 wherein  
  said first resonant circuit includes a first capacitor connected in series with a first inductor and the junction thereof is said coupled to said first output; and  
  said second resonant circuit includes a second capacitor connected in series with a second inductor and the junction thereof is said coupled to said second output.

11 (new). The circuit as set forth in claim 10 wherein at least one of said first capacitor and said second capacitor includes a parasitic capacitance.

12 (new) A method for powering a gas discharge lamp, said method comprising the steps of:

  coupling a first voltage converter to a first end of the gas discharge lamp;

coupling a second voltage converter to a second end of the gas discharge lamp; wherein the first voltage converter and the second voltage converter each produce alternating current; and  
operating the first voltage converter and the second voltage converter substantially 180° out of phase.

13 (new). In a circuit for operating one or more low pressure gas discharge lamps, the circuit including a full-bridge switching circuit in which alternate arms conduct simultaneously to produce a first square wave at a first output and a second square wave at a second output substantially 180° out of phase with the first square wave, characterized by a lamp drive circuit for each lamp, each lamp drive circuit comprising:

a first resonant circuit having an input coupled to the first output and a first output adapted to connect to a first end of a low pressure gas discharge lamp; and  
a second resonant circuit having an input coupled to the second output and a second output adapted to connect to a second end of the low pressure gas discharge lamp.

14 (new). The circuit as set forth in claim 13 wherein the first resonant circuit and the second resonant circuit are capacitively coupled to said full-bridge switching circuit.